



C. Steve Parrott
Director - Regulatory Affairs

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COMMUNICATIONS
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EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

May 23, 2000

Mr. K. David Waddell
Executive Secretary
Tennessee Regulatory Authority
460 James Robertson Parkway
Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0505

00-00339

Dear Mr. Waddell:

In accordance with the Tennessee Regulatory Authority ruling in the May 9, 2000 Directors' Conference, Sprint files this Status Report regarding the provision of the Third Party Bill Block Service.

To fulfill the requirement in Tennessee Rule 1220-4-2-.58, Sprint began work on the Third Party Bill Block Service on January 19, 2000. At that time Sprint identified three issues. The first issue was the establishment of a new alphanumeric position in our billing system for bill blocking conditions. The second issue was the assignment of an "Unbillable Return Code" to uniquely identify the reason for returning charges that are billed to an account where bill blocking has been activated. The third issue with this project was how to block a specific carrier from billing a specific customer without blocking other carriers from billing the same customer or other customers.

In the initial review of the project, it was determined that the solution to satisfy the first two issues would require that Sprint capture and save the contents of Position 47 upon entering the Message Processing System, continue to process the record within our system using the alternate position, and then return the initial information to Position 47 prior to passing the record on to other companies. To ensure that we had reviewed all possible uses in the Sprint programs, a scan of 35,000+ programs and 19,000+ procedures was performed. Any match with a program or procedure that used Position 47 required a programmer to review the program/procedure.

The method identified to resolve the third issue was to establish a Service and Equipment (S&E) Code for each carrier that could potentially have billing blocked.

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Each record received then could be compared to the customer's "blocked carrier codes." Matched carrier records would be returned and not billed to the customer.

Currently, the Planning Phase and the Analysis Phase of the project are complete. As of May 12, 2000 Sprint's Billing Services Group had completed 838.5 programming hours of the estimated 2,124 programming hours required for the provision of the Third Party Bill Block Service in Tennessee.

Please contact me if you have questions regarding this information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. Steve Parrott", with a stylized flourish at the end.

C. Steve Parrott

C: Chairman Melvin Malone
Director Sara Kyle
Director Lynn Greer